

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 AID-05 EUR-12 /111 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8711

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUSAKA 2226

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR CG ZA

SUBJ: ZAIRE EXPELS ZAMBIANS FROM SHABA

1. ZAMBIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CONFIRMS REPORTS THAT ZAIRE HAS EXPELLED A NUMBER OF ZAMBIANS FROM SHABA PROVINCE. THE MINISTRY SPOKESMAN SAID IT HAD NOT YET DETERMINED WHETHER THE DEPORTATIONS INVOLVED ONLY ZAMBIANS FOUND TO BE IN SHABA ILLEGALLY OR ALSO INCLUDED ESTABLISHED RESIDENTS. THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS IS REPORTED TO BE INVESTIGATING THE MATTER TO DETERMINE WHETHER GROUNDS EXIST FOR INTERVENTION OF THE DIPLOMATIC LEVEL.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE ZAIREAN CONSULATE IN NDOLA HAS CONFIRMED THAT A NUMBER OF ZAMBIANS HAVE BEEN EXPELLED FROM SHABA FOR ENTERING THE COUNTRY ILLEGALLY OR FOR BEING UNEMPLOYED. A CONSULATE SPOKESMAN TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE DEPORTATIONS WERE NOT AIMED SOLELY AT ZAMBIANS, BUT AT ANY INDIVIDUALS WHOSE PRESENCE WAS NOT PROPERLY AUTHORIZED. THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE 5000,000 ZAMBIANS LIVING IN SHABA WHO HAD PROPER DOCUMENTATION WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED.

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3. THE PRESS HAS ALSO REPORTED THAT A GROUP OF 25 ZAMBIANS ARRIVED AT KUSUMBALESA BORDER POST NEAR CILILABOMBWE JUNE 20 AFTER HAVING BEEN DEPORTED BY ZAIREAN AUTHORITIES. MEMBERS OF THE GROUP ALLEGED THAT THEY WERE "TORTURED" WHILE BEING HELD IN POLICE CELLS IN LIKASI PRIOR TO BEING MOVED FIRST TO LUB-UMBASHI AND THEN ON TO KASUMBALESA. THE DEPORTEES CLAIMED FURTHER THAT THEY WERE EMPLOYED IN THE MINES OF LUKASI AND

DOLWEZI, AND HAD BEEN ACCUSED BY THE ZAIREANS OF SUPPORTING
THOSE INVOLVED IN THE INVASION OF SHABA.

4. COMMENT: THE CURRENT TOUCHY RELATIONS BETWEEN ZAIRE
AND ZAMBIA WILL NOT BE HELPED IF ZAIREAN AUTHORITIES
BEGIN CRACKING DOWN ON THE LARGE ZAMBIAN POPULATION.
THE BORDER BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES CUTS ACROSS TRIBAL
LINES AND THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF
CROSS-BORDER TRAFFIC.
CLINGERMAN

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